CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 24 ~~6~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~the~~ a radially inner contour line ~~(24)~~ of the first flange ~~guiding surface (14) that lies radially closest to the axis of rotation (1a, 35a)~~ is radially further away from the axis of rotation ~~(1a, 35a)~~ than a radially outermost contour ~~(19)~~ of the second flange ~~(12) radially furthest away from the axis of rotation (1a, 35a)~~.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 24 ~~8~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a smallest possible radial gap size between the guiding surface ~~(14)~~ and the run-on surface ~~(15)~~ is greater than zero~~, the smallest possible radial gap size being a smallest operating play between the rotating cage (5) in an operating state of the ball bearing (1)~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the gap size is formed in a size equal to or greater than four micrometers to equal to or greater than eight micrometers.

11. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 24 ~~8~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cage ~~(5, 35)~~ is made of plastic and in that the guiding surface ~~(14, 45)~~ has~~, at least in the peripheral direction of the cage (5, 35)~~ radial, spaced-apart depressions ~~(47)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 24 ~~8~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cage ~~(5, 35)~~ is made of plastic and ~~in that at least~~ the second flange ~~(12)~~ has ~~a~~ an inner wall sub-portion ~~(25) of an inner surface of an imaginary hollow~~ defining an inner wall of a cylinder ~~(26) that is directed into the pocket (9), and in that~~ and a pocket angle between a ~~the~~ center axis ~~(9a)~~ of the ~~hollow~~ cylinder ~~(26)~~ and ~~an imaginary line (27)~~ a line perpendicular ~~in this case~~ to the axis of rotation ~~(1a)~~ is less than a ~~the~~ contact angle between the line ~~(27)~~ and between a contact line ~~(29)~~ of the angular-contact ball bearing ~~(2)~~, the ~~perpendicular~~ line ~~(27)~~ and the contact line ~~(29)~~ intersecting a center of the ball in the pocket ~~(28) at the center (32)~~ and thereby the contact line ~~(29)~~ intersecting the axis of rotation ~~(1a)~~ at an acute angle.

13 – 14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 24 ~~8~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first flange has ~~at least a free distance (31) between two mutually opposite further~~ an inner wall sub-portion ~~sub-portions (30) of the pocket (9) is~~ which is tapered inward ~~less than a smallest possible diameter of a ball (28) in the pocket (9), the free distance (31)~~ and has an inside diameter being at a greater distance away from the axis of rotation ~~(1a)~~ than the center ~~(32)~~ of the ball ~~(28)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second flange has an inner wall ~~at least a~~ sub-portion ~~(25) of an inner surface delimiting the pocket (9) is a surface portion of~~ defining a hollow cylinder ~~(26)~~ running around annularly in the pocket, the surface portion ~~going over into a further~~ merging with the inner wall sub-portion ~~(30)~~ of the first flange ~~inner surface~~ and the ~~further~~ inner wall sub-portion of the first flange having ~~(30) thereby having the inner lateral surface~~ a profile of ~~an imaginary~~ a ~~hollow~~ truncated cone~~, and the inside diameter (31) describing the hollow truncated cone at the inwardly narrowest point being the free distance (31)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 24 ~~8~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cage ~~(35)~~ is made of plastic and the first flange ~~(36)~~ is radially offset in relation to the second flange ~~(37)~~ to such an extent that the radially outermost contour ~~38~~ of the second flange ~~(37), radially furthest away from the axis of rotation~~, and a radially innermost inner contour ~~(39)~~ of the first flange ~~(36), lying closest to the axis of rotation~~, together abut ~~an imaginary~~ a parting plane ~~(40) in the direction of the axis of rotation (35a)~~, the parting plane ~~(40)~~ radially dividing the pocket ~~(41)~~ from the first flange ~~(36)~~ to the second flange ~~(37), and in that the parting plane (40) is kept radially at a distance from a pitch radius (42), the pitch radius (42) describing a common pitch circle of the angular-contact ball bearing (2) taken through the centers (32) of the balls (28) in the pockets (41)~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 24 ~~8~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~the cage (5, 35) is recessed at~~ the first flange is recessed on the outer edge of the first

flange ~~(11, 36), on a side (44) facing away from the pocket (9, 41) and axially terminating the cage (5, 35), axially in the direction of the pocket (9, 41) and, at the guiding surface (14, 45), radially in the direction of the axis of rotation (1a, 35a)~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outer edge of the first flange has ~~the cage (5) has~~ a bevel ~~(34), running around the axis of rotation (1a), between the guiding surface (14) and the side (33)~~.

20. (Currently Amended) The ball bearing as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outer edge of the first flange ~~cage (35)~~ has a channel ~~(46), running around the axis of rotation (35a), between the guiding surface (45) and the side (44)~~.

21- 23. (Canceled)

24. (New) An angular contact ball bearing comprising:

an outer bearing ring, an inner bearing ring, and a cage having pockets for holding balls positioned between the outer bearing ring and the inner bearing ring, the ball bearing having an axis of rotation;

the outer bearing ring having an inner raceway with a low axial shoulder and a high axial shoulder, the low axial shoulder spaced radially farther from the axis of rotation that the high axial shoulder, the low axial shoulder having a run-on surface facing radially inward

towards the axis of rotation, the run-on surface sloping so as to increase in radial distance from the axis of rotation toward an outer edge of the low axial shoulder; and

the cage having pockets for holding balls, the pockets delimited axially by a first flange and a second flange, the first flange radially opposite the low axial shoulder and the second flange radially opposite the high axial shoulder, the first flange having a guiding surface which radially opposes the run-on surface, the guide surface sloping so as to increase in radial distance from the axis of rotation towards an outer edge of the first flange.